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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/751,499

01/06/2004

Akihiro Taguchi

01-537

3338

23400

7590

12/12/2006

POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC  
12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE  
SUITE 101  
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

TRAN, DALENA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/751,499

**Applicant(s)**

TAGUCHI ET AL.

**Examiner**

Dalena Tran

**Art Unit**

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/6/04, 11/16/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-11 are pending.

The prior art submitted on 1/6/04, and 11/16/06 have been considered.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-5, and 8-10, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hirohama et al. (US 2002 / 0070876 A1).

As per claims 1, and 8, Hirohama et al. disclose a method for providing identification registration of a tire air pressure monitoring apparatus, the tire air pressure monitoring apparatus comprising a transmitter for measuring tire air pressure and for transmitting transmission data including measured air pressure and a sensor identification to a receiver and an external device, the method comprising: receiving at the external equipment the transmission data including the sensor identification from the transmitter (see [0020] through [0023]); identifying the transmitter that transmitted the transmission data based upon the transmission data (see [0023] to [0024]); and registering the identified transmitter at the receiver by the external equipment (see [0025] through [0027]).

As per claim 2, Hirohama et al. disclose setting an identification for the transmitter at the external equipment, wherein the identifying of the transmitter is based

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upon determining whether the sensor identification included in the transmission data matches a set identification (see the abstract; and [0030] through [0033]).

As per claims 4, and 9, Hirohama et al. disclose setting a relationship between the transmitter to be registered and a tire position and subsequently registering the relationship of the tire position together with the identified transmitter at the receiver (see [0028 to [0029]).

As per claims 5, and 10, Hirohama et al. disclose determining if the transmitter has initially been registered at the receiver; and registering the sensor identification for the transmitter when the transmitter has been determined not to have been initially registered (see [0039] through [0044]).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3, and 7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirohama et al. (US 2002 / 0070876 A1) in view of Okubo (6804999).

As per claim 3, Hirohama et al. do not disclose prohibiting the receiver from registering the transmitter by wireless communication. However, Okubo discloses prohibiting the receiver from registering the transmitter by wireless communication (see columns 6-7, lines 40-4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Hirohama et al. by combining

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prohibiting the receiver from registering the transmitter by wireless communication for accurately tire monitoring signal.

As per claim 7, Hirohama et al. disclose communication between the transmitter and the external equipment is performed by wireless communication (see [0025] through [0027]). Hirohama et al. do not disclose communication between the receiver and the external equipment is performed by a wired connection. However, Okubo discloses communication between the receiver and the external equipment is performed by a wired connection (see columns 4-5, lines 50-24). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Hirohama et al. by combining communication between the transmitter and the external equipment is performed by wireless communication for monitoring condition of tire in vehicle.

6. Claims 6, and 11, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### **Conclusion**

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

. Osborne et al. (US 2002/0130771 A1)

. Schmitt (US 2003/0000296 A1)

. Imao et al. (6505507)

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-6968.

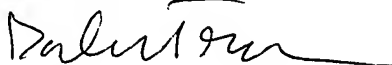
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The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 AM-4:00 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Patent Examiner  
Dalena Tran



December 7, 2006